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past, the most convenient and attractive handbook for the intelligent visitor to the Forum as well as a valuable outline for the more serious student.

HARRY LANGFORD WILSON.

Elizabethan Drama, 1558-1642. A History of the Drama in England from the Accession of Queen Elizabeth to the Closing of the Theaters, to which is prefixed a *Résumé* of the Earlier Drama from its Beginnings. By FELIX E. SCHELLING, Professor in the University of Pennsylvania. Boston and New York, Houghton, Mifflin & Company, 1908. Two Volumes.

The title-page defines sufficiently this valuable work, for whatever minor criticisms may be made, it is a *valuable* work and will be of great service to students of the Elizabethan Drama. As to the plan, it may be said that it treats in seventeen chapters the different kinds of literature according to subject that are comprised under the general head of Elizabethan Drama, and that are included within the chronological limits given. This plan necessitates the mention of the same author several times according to the nature of his subject-matter, and very briefly.

As a matter of personal preference the writer may say that he prefers the method of Ward and other historians of the drama who have made their treatment of the plays cluster around the individual writers, whatever may have been their subject-matter. This gives more unity, and is an aid to the memory, for in a great mass of details, the memory should receive all the help possible.

It has evidently been the intention of the author to notice even briefly, sometimes by title alone, all the attainable plays that have ever been written in this period of the English drama, and this has involved an immense amount of reading scarcely possible for one man.

It may, however, be doubted whether this is worth while, and this writer is inclined to believe that Warburton's cook conferred a boon upon English literature rather than inflicted a loss, and if he had had more pies to cover, the boon would have been all the greater.

We could readily have spared many minor writers, and the minor works of many greater ones. Life is too short to waste time over indifferent works, of which we have too many still left in the English drama. But if one undertakes to include all that have been preserved, Professor Schelling's work comes as near perfection as any that has been written.

One objection to a brief and cursory treatment of plays is that the reader has not sufficient information to go on to be capable of judging of the merits of a particular work, for it is not to be expected that any reader can duplicate the exhaustive labor that the writer of this work has undergone.

A Bibliographical Essay, a List of Plays, and what appears to be a good Index, always a great desideratum in a mass of details, conclude the work, for which all who are interested in the history of the English drama will give thanks to the scholarly author.

As slight additions to the bibliography, for no bibliography can be expected to be complete, the titles of one or two books that have come under the writer's observation may be given.

A thin brochure of twenty-eight pages, of which only four hundred and fifty copies were printed, entitled "Christopher Marlowe, Outlines of his Life and Works, by J. G. Lewis", was issued from London and Canterbury in 1891, with a view to aiding the Marlowe Memorial. The author says in a prefatory note: "The writer was amazed at the ignorance, apathy, or positive hostility displayed with reference to Marlowe. Some had never even heard of his name; others had a vague remembrance that he was a dramatist; whilst others again preferred to believe the unproved assertions of the poet's enemies, rather than to accept gratefully the glorious gift of the poet's works". The writer quotes from Tamburlaine, Faustus, The Jew of Malta, The Massacre at Paris, Dido, Queen of Carthage, and Edward II; and from the poems, especially The Passionate Shepherd to his Love, and Raleigh's reply. Also, I would add to the bibliography of Volpone, "Ben Jonson, his Volpone or The Foxe", with illustrations by Aubrey Beardsley, which Beardsley's death left incomplete, as he had intended to complete a series of twenty-four drawings, but lived to make but a cover design, a frontispiece, and vignettes to the argument, and to each of the five acts. The volume is in large quarto (London, Leonard Smithers & Co., 1898), and contains a critical essay by Vincent O'Sullivan on Ben Jonson, and a eulogy of Beardsley by Robert Ross.

It is handsomely bound in blue cloth and gold, and seems to have been issued for the sake of the illustrations, which are characteristic of the artist. The text is, doubtless, taken from the folio, as it preserves the dedication to "The Two Famous Universities", the epistle of Jonson, written "From my house in the Black Friars this II. of February, 1607", the preliminary verses, and the old spelling. Professor Schelling's Bibliography is voluminous and excellent.

JAMES M. GARNETT.